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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	North Korea	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Political Indoctrination in the North Korean Army	DATE DISTR.	29 August 1956
		NO. OF PAGES	1
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRE		REFERENCES	25X1
DATE ACQUIRED	This is UNEVALUATED Information		25X1

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Political Indoctrination

1. Methods of Indoctrination

The 2nd Company, 1st Battalion, 87th Regiment, 9th Infantry Brigade, 1st Corps of the People's Army [redacted] gave the soldiers political indoctrination twice a week (from 8 - 10 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays) and held political report meetings three times a week (about 30 minutes from 7 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays). The political indoctrination was conducted on the platoon level and each platoon had a lecturer and an assistant lecturer. They expounded certain given texts and checked the extent of understanding by the audience. 25X1

At political report meetings, generally they read the Nodong Sinmun (Labor Press) and made comments on the articles. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

2. Contents

[redacted] political indoctrination concerned documents on the decisions of the April plenary session of the Labor Party. The first round of the indoctrination was completed by the end of 1955 and the second round began in early 1956 [redacted] 25X1 25X1

The major items of the documents were; 1) strengthening of the political indoctrination for all the party members; 2) economic savings; 3) and elimination of bureacracy. The lecturers explained what the soldiers should do to assist in these tasks. [redacted] two of the stories told at the political report meetings. 25X1

(1) The first is the story of a Nodong Sinmun article on a big four conference. The article claimed, "The Soviet Union frustrated the conspiracy of the American imperialists and the South Korean puppet regime of Syngman RHEE to colonize the whole of Korea. The American imperialists are constantly seeking an opportunity for aggression, but the Soviet Union always prevents it. However, we must kick out the aggressive American imperialists and their running dogs of the Syngman RHEE group as early as possible." Commenting on the article, the lecturer emphasized that, "We must be constantly on the alert and fulfil the given tasks."

(2) The second is a story on another Nodong Sinmun article on a South Korean air force captain who sought refuge in North Korea. It reported that a South Korean airforce captain, unable to put up with various oppressions, fled to North Korea with his family, and that the North Korean Government warmly received them and allowed the captain to hold his same military rank in North Korea. Allegedly quoting the captain, the paper exposed the situation in South Korea, saying that the South Korean forces were short of food and the farmers, constituting 80% of the entire population in South Korea, had been deprived of all their grains, and that the South Korean people were ruled by threat and with sticks.

It also said that all the factories in South Korea were at a standstill and that Syngman RHEE and his followers were enriching themselves at the expence of the people. Commenting on the article, the lecturer urged the soldiers to fully carry out the given responsibilities and strive for liberation of the unfortunate people in South Korea.

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Non-Communist Printed Materials

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3. [redacted]

4. [redacted]

5. Government Control of Non-communist Printed Matters

During the war, the people were ordered to stay at home while leaflets were dropped by enemy planes and the leaflets were picked up by Party members and the officials of district people's committees. If one was caught reading a leaflet, he was sent to the people's committee or a police station for ideological check.

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Non-communist Broadcasts

6. [redacted]

7. Communist Broadcasts to the Public

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[redacted] a loud speaker fixed on an electric pale along a highway in Kaesŏng-si in April 1955. The speaker was then relaying a P'yŏngyang broadcast.

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8. [redacted]

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9. Customs and Tranditions Destroyed by Communism

Because of Communism, superstitions have been wiped out in North Korea. But some aged people desire the restoration of the offering of sacrifices to the Guardian of the Mountain. They feared that calamities would fall upon their village if the annual offering of sacrifices was stopped.

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